

to the artist who loved the middle style; the
humour of
Abstine et Sustine set above the kitchen; the
melancholy of
Avant Partir, so often to be echoed by the
poet of love's
fading rose.

To most English readers, indeed, Ronsard means
'Quand vous serez bien vieille' and
'Mignonne, allons
voir si la rose.' That is too little. He sang
best of gathering roses. But he gathered a great many
other things. He
prided himself on 'souplesse et variete', in life
as well as in
verse. He remains one of those poets who

have not
regarded ink as holy water, nor yet turned it
to gall; who
have succeeded in being healthy and
lovable human
beings, not two-headed monsters, half
genius and half
maniac or bore. Deafness made him a singer,
as blindness
is said to have made 'blind Thamyras and
blind Maeo-
nides', by cutting him off from the bustle of
the world.

^-'Consider the end*—'Nothing too much*. Both
were attributed
to Solon; the second was carved *on* the temple of
Apollo at Delphi.